

**Morgantown Road House**  
**CH-723**  
**Morgantown vic.**  
**Private**

**C. 1900**

The Morgantown Road House, now demolished was a representative example of the types of vernacular dwellings which were once a common part of the Charles County landscape. The relatively sophisticated treatment of Morgantown Road House shows similarities with other tenant houses associated with large plantations in Charles County.

The dwelling was a two-story, two bay frame dwelling on the north side of Morgantown Road. Abandoned for some time, the house faced south and stood slightly removed from the roadside. An original one story ell extended from the east elevation. Although all windows and doors had been removed long before the property was evaluated, the original exterior finishes including novelty siding remained intact. Simple in design and treatment, the dwelling had some decorative finishes including a boxed cornice, eave returns and corner boards. A single interior end chimney flue was placed in the main block, near the east wall.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-723

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Morgantown Road House  
other

### 2. Location

street and number North side of Morgantown Road not for publication  
city, town Morgantown X vicinity  
county Charles

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Carl R. Steinhauser  
street and number 3320 Twinbrook Drive telephone unknown  
city, town Waldorf state MD zip code 20603-4080

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 82 p.18  
city, town LaPlata liber 619 folio 58

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report  
☐ Other

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			0

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. CH-723

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### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Morgantown Road House, demolished soon after being field surveyed, was a two-story, two bay frame dwelling on the north side of Morgantown Road. Abandoned for some time, the house faced south and stood slightly removed from the roadside. An original one story ell extended from the east elevation. Although all windows and doors had been removed long before the property was evaluated, the original exterior finishes including novelty siding remained intact. Although overtly simple in design, the dwelling had some decorative finishes including a boxed cornice, eave returns and corner boards. A single interior end chimney flue was placed in the main block, near the east wall.

The façade was symmetrical with a first floor doorway to the west and a window to the east. Above this were placed two second story windows. The rear elevation included only two first floor windows. The west elevation was without fenestration. The ell included a doorway on the façade, a single centered window on the east wall and a doorway at the rear.

Due to the building's ruinous condition interior evaluation was limited to the first floor revealing a narrow partitioned stair on the west wall. The stair was enclosed in a narrow stair passage partitioned from the larger room to east. Wide Victorian trim surrounded the windows. Walls were plastered above matchstick wainscoting.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-723

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

<b>Specific dates</b>	c. 1890	<b>Architect/Builder</b>	Unknown
<b>Construction dates</b>	c. 1890		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The Morgantown Road House, now demolished was a representative example of the types of vernacular dwellings which were once a common part of the Charles County landscape. Usually associated with families of lesser means, these simple houses typically were two stories in height with a narrow stair passage located on a gable end. The relatively sophisticated treatment of Morgantown Road House shows similarities with other tenant houses associated with large plantations including the tenant house found at Mt. Aventine (CH-75NR) This dwelling was not specifically surveyed in the National Register Nomination but is included in the complex of buildings associated with contributing resource site #12. Less ornate examples include the Sam Montgomery House (CH-644), and the Bowling Tenant House (CH-251)

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. CH-723

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 335.11

Acreage of historical setting 335.11

Quadrangle name Colonial Beach North

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The Morgantown Road House is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 82, parcel 18..

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Cathy Currey/Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Charles County Planning Dept.

date 10/22/01

street and number 200 Baltimore Street

telephone 301-396-5815

city or town LaPlata

state MD zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032  
410-514-7600

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

Date: 8/2001

North arrow:



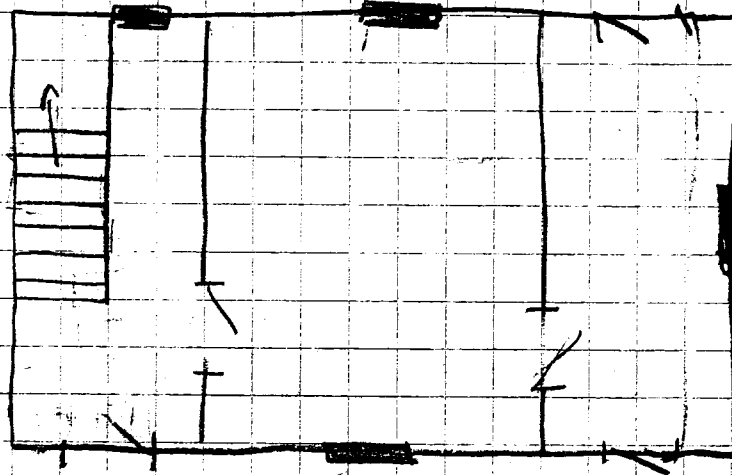
Name: MORGANTOWN ROAD HOUSE

Address: N SIDE MORGANTOWN ROAD

CH - 723

Charles County, Maryland

MORGANTOWN ☒ Vicinity



FIRST  
FLOOR  
PLAN



CH- 723 Charles County, MD  
Name: MORGANTOWN ROAD HS.  
Location: MORGANTOWN VIC.  
Quad: COLONIAL BEACH NORTH





CH-723  
MORGANTOWN ROAD HOUSE  
CHARLES @. MD  
C. CURREY/  
2/2001  
MD SHPO  
LOOKING NW  
1 OF 2



CH-723

MORGANTOWN ROAD HOUSE

CHARLES CO. MD

P. CURREY

4/2001

MD SHPO

LOOKING SW  
2 OF 2